

Special Session

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| Agenda Item # | 5 |
| Meeting Date | April 4, 2005 |
| Prepared By | Jessie Carpenter Deputy Clerk |
| Approved By | Barbara B. Matthews City Manager |

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| Discussion Item | Resolution Regarding Transportation of Hazardous Materials |
| Background | <p>The City held a public forum on rail transport of hazardous cargo on March 9, 2005.</p> <p>Prior to that, the City Council has held several discussions on the issue (March 15, 2004; November 1, 2004; and January 18, 2005).</p> <p>Councilmember Austin-Lane requested that discussion of a draft resolution be placed on the March 28 agenda. After the discussion on March 28, the resolution was revised by Councilmembers Austin-Lane and Williams to reflect the suggestions made during the worksession.</p> |
| Policy | The City Council is concerned with the health and safety of city residents. |
| Fiscal Impact | None. |
| Attachments | Resolution Endorsing a Regional Approach to Limiting the Transportation of Hazardous Materials by Rail |
| Recommendation | The Council will consider the resolution for adoption. |
| Special Consideration | |

Introduced by:

Resolution #2005-__
Endorsing a Regional Approach to
Limiting the Transportation of Hazardous Materials by Rail

WHEREAS, the events of September 11, 2001, demonstrated that the Washington DC area is a target for terrorists; and

WHEREAS, the potential devastating regional impacts of a rail disaster involving toxic chemicals have been detailed by experts in testimony before the Takoma Park City Council and the DC Council; and

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park has a portion of the CSX railroad passing through the City limits on which toxic chemicals are routinely transported; and

WHEREAS, the DC Council voted on February 1, 2005 to ban four classes of toxic chemicals (certain explosives, flammable gases, poisonous gases and poisonous materials other than gases) from transport through DC on the CSX line if they are not intended for DC delivery (Council Bill 15-525, the Terrorism Prevention and Safety in Hazardous Materials Transportation Act of 2005).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the City of Takoma Park, Maryland desires a unified region-wide stance to restrict the transport of deadly materials in our region consistent with the legislation passed by the DC Council; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Council commends the important step taken by the DC Council to protect residents in the National Capital Region; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City Council urges the federal government to cooperate in arriving at a unified regional plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT as the City of Takoma Park is a member of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOC), the City Council requests that the full MWCOC Board devote attention to this issue to further the goal of a region-wide ban.

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 2005.

Attest:

Catherine E. Waters, CMC
City Clerk